

What is claimed is:

1. A disposable oral hygiene device comprising:
  - a. an elongated member having a first end and a second end; and
  - b. a swab secured to said first end, said swab comprising a nonwoven fabric.
2. The disposable oral hygiene device of claim 1 wherein said nonwoven fabric has a base plane and multiple raised areas, said multiple raised areas protruding from said base plane to impart upon said nonwoven fabric a three-dimensional topography.
3. The disposable oral hygiene device of claim 1 wherein said nonwoven fabric comprises overlapping thermoplastic fibers defining an array of hollow projections protruding from said fabric.
4. The disposable oral hygiene device of claim 1 wherein a first swab is secured to said first end, and a second swab is secured to said second end.
5. A disposable oral hygiene device comprising:
  - a. an elongated member having a first end and a second end, said elongated member comprising a thermoplastic material, said elongated member having a compressive energy of from about 0.226 Joules to about 2.26 Joules; and
  - b. a swab secured to said first end.
6. The disposable oral hygiene device of claim 5 wherein said elongated member has a compressive energy of from about 0.339 Joules to about 1.13 Joules.
7. The disposable oral hygiene device of claim 5 wherein said elongated member includes a hinge.
8. The disposable oral hygiene device of claim 5 wherein said elongated member includes a permanent bend.
9. The disposable oral hygiene device of claim 5 wherein said elongated member includes a permanent hook.
10. The disposable oral hygiene device of claim 5 wherein said elongated member is hollow.
11. The disposable oral hygiene device of claim 10 wherein said thermoplastic material is polypropylene.

12. The disposable oral hygiene device of claim 10 wherein said elongated member has a wall thickness of from about 0.35 mm to about 0.50 mm.

5 13. The disposable oral hygiene device of claim 5 wherein said swab comprises a nonwoven fabric.

10 14. The disposable oral hygiene device of claim 13 wherein said nonwoven fabric comprises overlapping thermoplastic fibers defining an array of hollow projections protruding from said fabric.

15 15. The disposable oral hygiene device of claim 14 further comprising a dentifrice applied to said swab.

16. A disposable oral hygiene device comprising:  
a hollow elongated member having a first end and a second end, said elongated member comprising a polypropylene material, said elongated member having a compressive energy of from about 0.452 Joules to about 0.791 Joules, said elongated member having a wall thickness of from about 0.35 millimeters to about 0.50 millimeters;  
20 and

a swab secured to said first end, said swab comprising a nonwoven fabric, said fabric comprising overlapping thermoplastic fibers defining an array of hollow projections protruding from said fabric.

25 17. A method of making a disposable oral hygiene device comprising:

- a. providing an elongated member having a first end;
- b. folding a fabric over said first end to create a first layer and a second layer, with said elongated member sandwiched therebetween;
- c. securing said fabric to said elongated member; and
- 30 d. securing said first layer to said second layer.

18. A method of making a disposable oral hygiene device comprising:

- a. providing an elongated member having a first end;
- b. winding a fabric around said first end; and
- 35 c. securing said fabric to said elongated member.

19. A process of providing oral hygiene care comprising:  
providing a disposable oral hygiene device comprising an elongated member  
having a first end and a second end, wherein a swab is secured to said first end, said  
swab comprising a nonwoven fabric; and  
5 cleaning a mouth with said disposable oral hygiene device.

20. The process of claim 19 wherein said nonwoven fabric comprises overlapping  
thermoplastic fibers defining an array of hollow projections protruding from said fabric.

10 21. The process of claim 19 wherein said elongated member comprises a thermoplastic  
material, said elongated member having a compressive energy of from about 0.226  
Joules to about 2.26 Joules.

15 22. A process of providing oral hygiene care comprising:  
providing a disposable oral hygiene device comprising a hollow elongated member  
having a first end and a second end, said elongated member comprising a  
polypropylene material, said elongated member having a compressive energy of from  
about 0.452 Joules to about 0.791 Joules, said elongated member having a wall  
thickness of from about 0.35 millimeters to about 0.50 millimeters, wherein a swab is  
20 secured to said first end, said swab comprising a nonwoven fabric, said fabric  
comprising overlapping thermoplastic fibers defining an array of hollow projections  
protruding from said fabric; and  
cleaning a mouth with said disposable oral hygiene device.